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Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, a Senator from the State of Texas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. Prentice Meador, of Prestoncrest Church of Christ, Dallas, TX.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Shall we pray.

Holy Father, we affirm You as Lord of our lives and our Nation. We are comfortable to come into Your presence on this special moment because You have invited us before Your throne. Gratitude and praise flows from our hearts for giving our Nation blessings that would have astonished our ancestors.

Lord, in this historic week, our Nation mourns the death of President Ronald Reagan. Father, we celebrate his patriotism, optimism, and courage. Bless Mrs. Reagan, her family, and our Nation with peace from Your heart.

And, Father, may we never forget our heritage. Sovereign Lord, we are keenly aware that 60 years ago today, heroic men were fighting their way off the beaches of Normandy. Lord, we shall never forget places like "Bloody Omaha," Carentan, Sainte-Mere-Eglise, Caen, Bastogne. Keep in our memory those who fought together and now lie together in death that we might be free. Father, may their voices of valor be heard in this Chamber in clear, crisp tones.

Merciful Father, in a world that sometimes drowns out such voices, empower the women and men of this great body to hear again words from our past: integrity, faith, bravery, sacrifice, and godliness. At this special time, I pray that each Senator might recommit to the clarity of Your truth, the depth of Your wisdom, and the power of Your love.

Father, help the Senators to know that many in this Nation pray for them and their faithfulness to their most solemn obligations. May they bow their knees before You so they may know what is right for our country. Lord, sanctify this assembly by dwelling in the hearts of each of these respected leaders. May glory, honor, and dominion be Yours forever and ever.

In Your most holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, D.C., June 8, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, a Senator from the State of Texas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. HUTCHISON thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. This morning and throughout today's session, Members will have the opportunity to give remarks and pay tribute to President Reagan. I announced yesterday and again last night that the Senate would delay its work on the pending Defense bill until Monday next week. The filing deadline for amendments to that bill passed at 5 p.m. yesterday. Now the two managers of the legislation will be able to look over the legislative language of those submitted amendments. We will start Monday and work aggressively on that bill and will likely have multiple votes on Monday.

For the remainder of this week, in addition to today's morning business period, Senators will have until 3 p.m. tomorrow to come to the floor to speak on the life and legacy of our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

The Senate will honor that life through a Senate resolution, which is deserving of a rollcall vote. However, that vote will not occur until tomorrow.

I will talk to the Democratic leader about the precise timing and we will let our colleagues know as that is scheduled for Wednesday. Therefore, we will not have any rollcall votes today.

As a reminder, we will recess today from 12:30 until 2:15 for our weekly policy luncheons.

Today we will also pass an adjournment resolution which will allow both Houses to adjourn on Wednesday and to reconvene on Monday to accommodate the ceremonies and services relating to the death of President Reagan.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SNOWE). The minority leader is recognized.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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